

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: PFOR, SP, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH SPANISH FM AREILZA,
DECEMBER 16, 1975 IN PARIS

1. THE SECRETARY HAD A VERY CORDIAL MEETING WITH THE NEW
SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE MARIA DE AREILZA, COUNT OF
MOTRICO, FOR A HALF HOUR IN PARIS ON DECEMBER 16, 1975.
AMBASSADOR STABLER, HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT WERE PRESENT.

2. AREILZA EXPRESSED THE KING'S APPRECIATION FOR THE USG'S
MORAL SUPPORT FOR HIM IN HIS FIRST DAYS OF RULE. BUT THE
KING WAS HOPING FOR ADDITIONAL GESTURES FROM THE U.S. WHICH
HE COULD PRESENT TO HIS PEOPLE AS FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVE-
MENTS FOR SPAIN.

3. THE FIRST AREA WAS THE U.S.-SPANISH AGREEMENT. AREILZA
FIRST ASSURED THE SECRETARY THAT SPAIN WOULD HONOR EVERY-
THING THAT WAS SIGNED AND AGREED. THERE WAS NO QUESTION
ABOUT THIS. HE WAS DISPLEASED WITH THE SPANISH TRANSLATION

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OF CERTAIN PARTS AND PROPOSED TO PRESENT A NEW DRAFT.

THE ENGLISH TEXT WAS FINE. THE SECRETARY INVITED THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO DO A BETTER TRANSLATION AND SHOW IT TO US.

4. AREILZA THEN ASKED, ON BEHALF OF THE KING, WHETHER THE AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE ANY CHANCE OF A TWO-THIRDS VOTE IN THE SENATE IF IT WERE PRESENTED FOR RATIFICATION AS A TREATY INSTEAD OF AN EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT. HE NOTED THAT SENATE LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES HAD EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT. A FORMAL TREATY WOULD HAVE MUCH HIGHER STATUS. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY. HE WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT A TWO-THIRDS VOTE. HIS PRINCIPAL CONCERN WAS WHETHER IT WOULD BECOME A PRECEDENT FOR REQUIRING ALL BASE AGREEMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED AS TREATIES. HE ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPLEX OF THESE AGREEMENTS REALLY AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN A BASE AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY PROMISED TO CONSULT A NUMBER OF SENATORS AND GIVE AN ANSWER IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY.

5. AREILZA THEN ASKED IF A REFERENCE TO COORDINATION WITH THE ATLANTIC DEFENSIVE SYSTEM COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNEX THAT PERINAT AND ROVIRA WERE WORKING ON FOR THE U.S.-SPANISH COUNCIL. SUCH A REFERENCE WOULD GIVE THE SPANISH MILITARY, SOMEWHAT UNHAPPY OVER THE SAHARA, A POSITIVE FOCUS FOR SPAIN'S FUTURE MILITARY ORIENTATION. THE SECRETARY WAS CONFIDENT THIS COULD BE INCLUDED SINCE IT WAS ALREADY IN THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. HE PROMISED WE WOULD LOOK AT IT.

6. AREILZA THEN ASKED WHETHER, FOR PRESENTATIONAL REASONS, A U.S. AID PACKAGE COULD BE PUT TOGETHER THAT REACHED THE ROUND FIGURE OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS (UP FROM THE PRESENT (\$675 MILLION), EVEN IF THIS WAS DONE BY LUMPING TOGETHER OTHER PROGRAMS ALREADY CONCLUDED. THE SECRETARY PROMISED TO LOOK AT IT. ALTHOUGH A HIGHER FIGURE MIGHT CREATE A DOMESTIC PROBLEM FOR US, WE WANTED TO HELP. ONE BILLION IN NEW MONEY WE COULD NOT DO.

7. AREILZA SAID IF ALL THESE MATTERS COULD BE SETTLED BY THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY, HE COULD SEND ROVIRA TO
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WASHINGTON, AND THE SECRETARY COULD COME TO SPAIN TO SIGN IT. JUAN CARLOS WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THE SECRETARY. AREILZA HOPED THE SECRETARY WOULD APPEAR ON TELEVISION IN SPAIN AND SAY SOME WORDS OF SUPPORT. THE SECRETARY PROMISED TO VISIT MADRID AROUND 24 JANUARY ON THE WAY BACK FROM MOSCOW.

8. THE SECRETARY CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING U.S. SUPPORT FOR

THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS. OBVIOUSLY SOME EVOLUTION
WAS NECESSARY, BUT WE COULD SEE THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT
WAS DOING THIS. THEREFORE, SPAIN WOULD NOT COME UNDER

PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. TO MOVE AT A FASTER PACE WHICH
COULD WEAKEN THE MODERATE FORCES AND PROVE DANGEROUS.
AREILZA EXPRESSED AGREEMENT AND THANKED THE SECRETARY FOR
THESE WORDS. KISSINGER

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